



## News from your city



### OUT & ABOUT

**Think art.** Planning is underway for a juried arts festival on a fall Sunday in Tapawingo Park, to be presented by the City of West Lafayette and Tippecanoe Arts Federation. Watch for details and join the fun.

**New trees, perennials.** Nearly 200 trees were planted in our city last year, about half by the West Lafayette Tree Fund. Locations include the Northwest Greenway Trail on Kalberer Road, Neil Armstrong Drive, southbound U.S. 231 and our parks. And 300 daffodils and surprise lily bulbs were planted along Brown in Tapawingo Park, promising warm weather color.

**Park enhancements.** Lommel Park is getting new equipment on two playgrounds and more landscaping. Dubois Park has six new picnic tables and a grill. And work on our newest green spot, Lincoln Park, has begun. Vinyl liners have also been added at the municipal pools, to save on painting, crack sealing and leaking.

**Farmers' Market.** Head to Cumberland Park Wednesdays beginning May 3 for the return of the Sagamore West Farmers' Market.

**[www.city.west-lafayette.in.us](http://www.city.west-lafayette.in.us)** Stay in touch. Visit our website!

## ANNEXATION TO BRING SMART GROWTH

"Smart" and "quality" growth were heard frequently as some 100 West Lafayette residents spent six months in 2005 updating the city's strategic plan. Areas west and north of the city were suggested for possible annexation.

### Growing to the North

The process has now begun as the city plans to annex 1,173 acres to the north, including Purdue Research Park Phase III, Prophet's Ridge and Lauren Lakes subdivisions and other residential areas.

"Growth is already occurring, with some developers requesting city services," says mayor Jan Mills. "Annexing will allow the city council and staff to play a role in land use and planned growth. It will also increase our assessed valuation and stabilize property tax rates."

### Public Hearing in March

Notices have been published and sent to property owners. Next up: a March public hearing, then second reading 30 to 60 days later, with the ordinance effective in another 90 days.

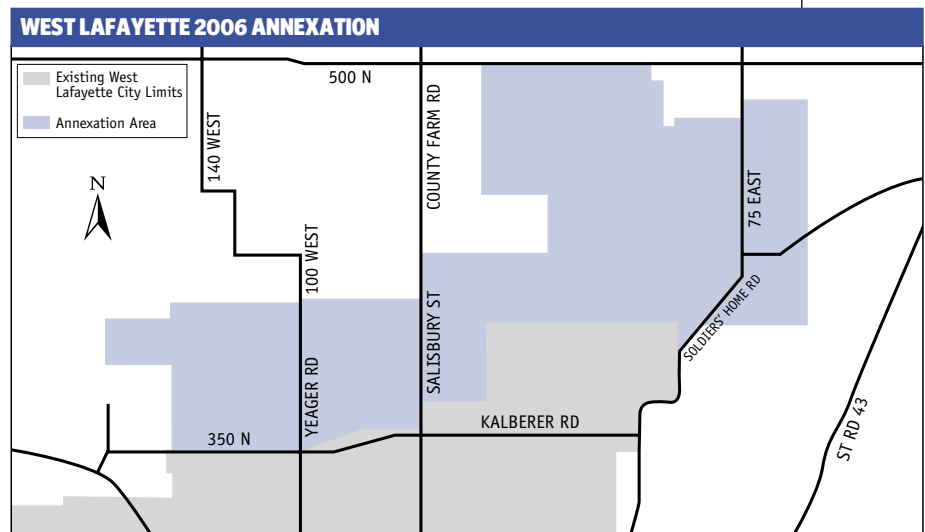
If finalized, the city's geographic size would increase by one-third, initially boosting the value of property on city tax rolls by \$6.2 million. Population would immediately increase by about 150.

Because library and school boundaries are state-set, they will remain as they are now.

### Extending Services

New residents would enjoy numerous benefits, including city police, fire and first-responder medical services, as well as city trash, recycling and yard waste collections and street repair, cleaning and snow removal.

*Plans are to add 1,173 acres to West Lafayette's city limits.*



# YOUR CITY AT WORK

**Spotlight on Trees.** With funding from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and assistance from Purdue's Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, the city has inventoried trees in rights-of-way, imported data into our GIS, and prepared our first street tree management plan. We've also published a brochure recommending tree varieties. Currently, 4,104 trees in 92 species are in city rights-of-way, with spots for at least another 2,200. Most common are maples (35 percent), followed by green and white ash (22 percent). Because of concerns about emerald ash borers, the city is diversifying plantings and hopes residents will, too. Get the brochure at [www.city.west-lafayette.in.us](http://www.city.west-lafayette.in.us) or call 775-5160.

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**Neighborhoods.** Purdue student leadership, staff from the office of the vice president for student services and city personnel have teamed up to address campus neighborhood issues. Some new policies and procedures mirroring other university communities are being tried. "We come to the table regularly to air concerns and share suggestions," says mayor Jan Mills. "It's been positive in reducing noise and vandalism and furthering a spirit of cooperation."

**Local Revenues.** Mayor Jan Mills and other Indiana Association of Cities and Towns members are working with the General Assembly to solve local funding needs. *Hometown Matters* is designed to encourage greater local government

efficiency and cooperation, reduce property tax reliance and find new revenue sources to fund critical services.

**Sagamore West.** Permits are pending from the Indiana Department of Transportation for spring installation of light poles with decorative banners along Sagamore West from Soldiers' Home Road to Yeager and at Win Hentschel Blvd. and Cumberland Avenue. INDOT is also reviewing landscape plans for the Northwestern/Sagamore interchange, and applications are in process for new gateways. These developments complement other recent improvements.

**Frog at the Bog.** Hop to Lilly Nature Center at the Celery Bog, open year round, to meet "Lilly Pads." Created by Jeff Klinker for Frog Follies, the sculpture was donated by its sponsor, Eli Lilly Tippecanoe Labs. "We hope all our community, especially our young ones, will enjoy this colorful gift," says Lilly's Diana Ritchie. City Hall's lobby, too, features a frog, created by West Lafayette High School students.

**Police Commission.** Recent West Lafayette Police Merit Commission activities have prompted questions about its origin and authority. Established in 2004 following police department and Common Council approval, by state law the commission consists of: two persons of different political parties appointed by the mayor; two of different parties elected by active department members; and one appointed by the Common Council.

Commission members' powers and duties, outlined in Indiana Code, include selection, appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline and dismissal of police department members, except those in upper-level, policymaking positions. Commissioners serve two- and four-year terms at the pleasure of the appointing authority and may be removed any time.

*Campus neighborhoods a West Lafayette plus*



*Lilly Pads, the newest Lilly Nature Center resident*





*Pictured below: Barbara Davis, recent winner of West Lafayette's monthly Beautification Award. To nominate someone, contact Beverly Shaw, 775-5160, bshaw@city.west-lafayette.in.us.*

*Safe, smooth vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian flow is the goal of projects on Salisbury Street and Tapawingo Drive.*

## IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY

Pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers will benefit from work underway by the West Lafayette Engineering Department: an extension to Tapawingo Drive and safety improvements along Salisbury Street.

### Tapawingo Extension

In the first step toward the master transportation plan for the Purdue area, Tapawingo will be extended from Wabash Landing at State Street (State Road 26) to South River Road (U.S. 231) at Williams Street, where a stoplight will be added.

"That will alleviate traffic at State Street's busy five-point intersection," says city engineer David Buck, P.E. Plans also call for a new walking trail on the north side, with the full project slated for late 2006 or early 2007 completion.

### Salisbury Enhancements

The Salisbury Street project includes new five-foot sidewalks, retaining walls, relocated utility poles, handicap-accessible ramps and driveway approaches, and signal upgrades from Robinson Street to Riley Lane.

Five-foot bicycle lanes will also be added on both sides of the street, as well as some landscaped medians. Travel lanes will be narrowed slightly to help reduce speed and fit existing right-of-way.

### Lindberg in Line, Too

The pre-winter resurfacing of Lindberg Road, understood to be a temporary fix, precedes final resolution between the city, the contractor and Indiana Department of Transportation. "We've been meeting regularly to discuss the construction aspects of the project, and some progress has been made," Buck says.

## HATS OFF TO WINNERS

**Certified.** Three Wastewater Treatment Utility staff earned Class I certification from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management: lab manager Lisa Murfitt, lab technician Andrea Njuguna and operator Steve Nelson, a testament to the city's continuing education commitment. The Wastewater Treatment Utility was also named a Laboratory of Excellence and earned a safety award from the Indiana Water Environment Association.

**Nominated.** Mayor Jan Mills nominated Joe Hornett, Purdue Research Foundation senior vice-president and treasurer, for the Indiana Chamber of Commerce Business Leader of the Year Award, recognizing diligence, effort and desire to move Indiana forward. "Joe Hornett, who oversees Purdue Research Park, has made an immeasurable impact on the city's and state's economy," Mills says. The park is home to more than 75 high-tech businesses, the largest such cluster in Indiana.

**Community Prosperity.** Two West Lafayette businesses received 2005 Community Prosperity Awards from the Lafayette-West Lafayette Economic Development Corp.: BASi Inc., headquartered here, and Great Lakes Chemical, who will maintain 150 jobs here following its merger with Chemtura. The award recognizes economic and civic contributions.

**Beautification Awards.** Each month, West Lafayette presents a Beautification Award to recognize private property landscaping. Recent winners:

- **Barbara and Howard Davis**, 833 Hillcrest Road, whose yard includes transplants from their parents' gardens
- **Connie and John Basham**, for rental properties planting
- **Linda and Bob Sorensen**, 1500 Northwestern Ave., who enjoy a natural garden
- **Lynne and Terry Zachmanoglou**, 1424 N. Salisbury St., whose secret garden is their refuge
- **Therese and Jerry Lynch**, 601 Ridgewood, who favor showy plantings.



News from your city





## RECYCLE: IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO

West Lafayette residents, pat yourself on the back! You've kept 33,000 tons of reusable waste out of landfills since curbside recycling began 15 years ago. Now, with our "Recycle: It's the Right Thing to Do" campaign, the city wants to set new records.

### It's as Easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. Use your red curbside bin on recycling collection days for steel and soda cans, plastic bottles, glass jars, flattened cardboard, newspapers and mixed paper (magazines, catalogs, office paper, cereal boxes and mail). Need an extra bin? They're just \$6.50 at the City Recycling Center, 705 South River Road.

2. Drop off mixed-paper recyclables:

The first weekend of every month at Lommel Park on Wilshire between Essex and Barlow streets in the Barberry Heights neighborhood.

The third weekend of every month at the LaGrange Street baseball field in University Farm.

3. Drop off oil filters, antifreeze, motor oil, batteries and all other recyclables any time at our 24-hour Drop-off Recycling Center, 705 South River Road.

Questions about recycling? Call 775-5242.

*Luc and his mom Deb Parent recycle magazines at the 24-hour Drop-off Recycling Center on South River Road.*

# West Lafayette, Indiana

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